Population - 1926.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Dispatch

The Negro Not Dying Out.

A quarter of a century ago a life insurance statistician predicted that disease would wipe out the colored race in this country. The prediction does not now seem likely to come true. The colored population of the United States has doubled in the past half-century; although it has increased far less rapidly than the white population, a fact due largely to white immigration. One-fifth of the total population in 1870 was colored; one-tenth in 1920.

An important factor in this development has been the steadily improving health of the colored race, which has resulted from increasing attention to its health. The health of the Negroes was better while they were slaves than it has been since; a consequence of the monetary interest taken in them by their owners. After they were emancipated there were parts of the country in which the health authorities paid little attention to the Negroes or the conditions in which they lived. This is now being remedied. The Negroes are doing much for themselves and the public is coming to understand that the welfare of a considerable section of it cannot be ignored without endangering that of the whole. A large mortality occurs among the Negroes who have come north and gone into the cities to live, which may be traced in maladjustment; but this will doubtless be overcome. The likelihood of disease destroying the colored population of this country apparently is growing less every year.

SEP 1 - 1928

The Colored Population

(Atlanta Journal)

Recent reports of the United States census bureau note a shift in the negro population that is both significant and interesting. The preponderance numerically of negroes in certain of the southern sates is passing, and the time apparently is not far distant when there will be no American states in which the colored population outnumbers the white.

From the bureau reports we learn that for one hundred and fifteen years, up to the present time, negroes outnumbered the whites in South Carolina. But today the whites are in a majority in South Carolina, by a margin of some sixteen thousand.

Establishment of white numerical prepondance in the Palmetto state now leaves Mississippi as the only state in the union in which the negroes outnumber the whites. The 1910 census showed nine hundred and thirty-five thousand, one hundred and eighty-four negroes in "ole Miss" fifty-three thousand, nine hundred and sixty-two whites It is believed that within the next decade if not by 1930. Mississippi will have shifted the balance.

Two causes have contributed to bring about the condition noted by the census bureau—recent heavy immigration of negroes northward and the higher mortality rate. Better wages and hopes for a brighter future have stimulated the northward movement of the negro, but it may set down as certain that this migration is temporary and will hereafter be influenced by local conditions. The industrial development of the south, with the accompanying building activity, already has stemmed the flow of negroes northward, and thousands who left their native land in quest of employment already have returned. In addition, as the Boston Transcript observes "seldom is the negro's social position really improved in the north, though the illusion that it will be a powerful magnet."

It is the view of our Boston contemporary that on the whole "the position of the southern negro will be improved by the relative decrease in his numbers, just as his position is impaired in the north by his relative increase—an increast which relegates him to slums and to bad sanitary conditions and general neglect."

The steady ascendancy of the white population to the southern that restrictions on negro suffrage will be removed or abated. states moves The Transcript to speculate as to whether it is likely

"Though negroes in South Carolina, Alabama or Louisiana can no longer by any possibility outvote the whites, they might if they voted, outvote the whites in many localities," observe the Transcript. "There are a good many counties in South Carolina and the Gulf states where the negroes heavily preponderate. It is scarcely conceivable that in our day negroes will ever be permitted to vote in the southern states as they are in the northern. But some degree of relaxation in the restriction is likely to grow up in time, with the complete removal of the fear of negro domination."

Our esteemed Boston contemporary exhibits a not unusual unfamiliarity with so-called southern suffrage restrictions in discussing the political negro population. The fact is that our "restrictions" in Georgia differ very little from those that obtain in Massachuesetts. The only addition qualification that Georgia enforces, which is not enforced in the Bay State, is the payment of all taxes. Massachusetts has an educational qualification just as have all the southern states, nd the person who cannot meet this requirement is denied the right to vote. The illiterate, ignorant southern negro can hope to enjoy no more political influence in Massachusetts than in Georgia Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, North Carolina or any other southern state in which ability to read and write is a prerequisite to suffrage.

AUG 12 1926

MORE WHITES THAN NEGROES

CHANGE IN STATE'S POPULATION FOR FIRST TIME IN 115 YEARS.

Columbia, Aug. 4.—For the first time in 115 years the white population of South Carolina in 1925 exceeded the negro, according to an estimate of the United States census bureau. The figures as furnished the bureau of vital statistics of South Carolina for 1925 are 897,497 whites and 881,587 negroes. For 1926 the population as estimated by the census bureau of the United States and furnished the bureau of vital statistics of South Carolina are 910,100 whites and 893,900 negroes. It was unofficially stated a couple of years ago that the migration of the negro north appearently had changed the population.

In 1810 the white population of South Carolina was 214,196 and the black was 200,919. But the census of 1820 showed that the whites were in the minority, the figures then being: 237,440 whites and 265,301 blacks. The negro has remained in the majority until 1925, as shown by the figures given above.

In 1920 the population, according to the census of that year was 818,538 whites and 864,719 negroes. The large emigration of negroes from this state and the greater mortality account for the greater increase in the whites. As shown by the figures, the census bureau estimated that the whites exceeded the negroes by 15,910 in 1925 and 16,200 in 1926. The estimates are made as of July of each year.

The bureau of vital statistics of South Carolina is not able to furnish anything like satisfactory figures of births for unfortunately there is great negligence in reporting births. New legislation more effective in this respect is necessary, it is said, or more strenuous efforts made to enforce legislation now on the books should be made. Under the law physicians and midwives are required to report births, but unfortunately very many births are not reported, so no satisfactory figures may be given of the relative births in the two races.

According to the figures compiled by the bureau of vital statistics of South Carolina in 1925 there died 13,145 negroes and 8,557 whites.

The greatest mortality among the negro race is among infants less than one year old, and in the ages from 20 to 70, as compared with the whites.

The following are the figures as compiled by the bureau of vital statistics:

Under one year, whites, male, 859, females, 702; negro male, 1,382, females, 1,182.

One to five years, white males, 349, females, 248; negro males, 450, females, 414.

Six to ten years, white males, 84, females, 69; negro males, 125, females, 161.

Ten to 20 years, white males, 208, females, 162; negro males, 419, females, 540.

Twenty to 30 years, white males, 271, females, 287; negro males, 669, females, 948.

Thirty to 40 years, white males, 278, females, 297; negro males, 551, females, 812.

Forty to 50 years, white males, 340, females, 302; negro males, 676, females, 758.

Fifty to 60 years, white males, 492, females, 301; negro males, 705, females, 585.

Sixty to 70 years, white males, 675, females, 482; negro males, 614, females, 471.

Seventy to 80 years, white males, 786, females, 627; negro males, 503, females, 390.

Over 80 years, white males, 273, females, 422; negro males, 362, females, 367.

Unclassified, white males, 21, females, 19; negro males, 32, females 30.

COLORED CALIFORNIA IS GROWING

Washington, Oct. 6.—Believe it or not, the colored citizens of California are making their presence helpfully felt along all lines. Their population is steadily increasing, and when Nov. election day comes along this year, more Negro voters will go to the polls in California than will vote in Colorado, Connecuit Massachusetts or Deleware, states in which the Negro has been presumed to have had a long lead.

When, more than a decade ago, a talented young violinist, Miss Virginia Moore, of Oakland, came East and played to appreciate audiences in the principal cities, the Negroes up and down the Atlantic Coast had not, up to that time, given much attention to the Art, Business, Finance, and Professions of sunny California. Since that time, however, California and the Pacific Coast have attracted national attention.

It was found that nearly two per cent of the Negro migrants of 1915, 1916, and 1917, had drifted into California, entering into employment and absorbing many occupations theretofore held by the fleeing Japanese. The Railroad dining-car men have set up a union in California; beauty parlors have become essential; insurance has opened its wedge; home-seekeers have become numerous; a Negro Business League is now flourishing; the press has become successfully virile and independent; energetic relators, such as E. Marshall, of 2327 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, Calif., have blazed the trail for ambitious settlers an dhome-buyers; and the Negro physician, dentist, and attorney are no longer looked upon with curiosity. Colored California is growing, day by day, in every way.

Q.—What per cent of the population of the north is negro? Of the south? —E. S., Helena, Ark.

A.—The terms "north" and south" necessitate some rather arbitrary classifications. The Negro Year Book, counting Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, West Virginia and Kentucky with the southern states, gives the population of the south as constituting 26.9 per cent of the whole by the 1920 census. If the north is considered to constitute the 17 states (exclusive of any of those named above) from Maine to Minnesota and Missouri, its negro population may be given as 24 per cent of its total. This is also on the basis of the 1920 census. Since that year negro migration toward the northern cities, a movement not yet accurately measured, has probably made some change in the porportion but not a great one. In 1920 the total population of the southern states, including the border states named above, was 33,125,831 and their negro population 8,912,250. The 17 northern states had a total population of 59,332,797, including 393,843 negroes.